

Message Text

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ACTION OES-06

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5087
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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SENV, UNEP

SUBJ: UNEP INTERGOVERNMENTAL EXPERTS MEETING ON ENVIRONMENT
AND DEVELOPMENT

1. PERMREP POUCHING TO KING OES/ENP/EN NDEGWA'S
LETTER OF 23 DECEMBER, TRANSMITTING ANNOTATED AGENDA
FOR SUBJECT MEETING AND THE WORKING PAPER THAT WILL
FORM THE BASIS OF DISCUSSIONS. IN ADDITION TO INTRO-
DUCTION WORKING PAPER CONTAINS TWO PRINCIPLE
CHAPTERS ON "ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT - INTER-
RELATIONSHIPS" AND ON "ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF THE
IRRATIONAL AND WASTEFUL USE OF NATURAL RESOURCES."
PAPER CONCLUDES WITH NINE "GUIDELINES" ON WHICH EXDIR
HOPES THE EXPERTS WILL REACH GENERAL AGREEMENT FOR
RESOURCE USE.

2. NINE GUIDELINES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

(I) PATTERNS OF DEVELOPMENT SHOULD INDUCE CHANGES IN
LIFE STYLES OF FAMILIES, PUBLIC AND PRIVATE ENTERPRISES
AND GOVERNMENTS SUCH THAT THEY CAN BE REALIZED WITHOUT
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ENDANGERING THE ENVIRONMENT OR THE DEVELOPMENT PROSPECTS
OF FUTURE GENERATIONS.

(II) MORE USE SHOULD BE MADE OF RENEWABLE AND RECYCLABLE
RESOURCES.

(III) ENCROACHMENT EFFECTS OF RESOURCE USE SHOULD BE

CONTROLLED, AND LIABILITY AND COMPENSATION SYSTEMS SHOULD BE PROMOTED.

(IV) "ENERGY ACCOUNT" SHOULD BE USED WHEREVER POSSIBLE ALONGSIDE CONVENTIONAL ACCOUNTING PRACTICES, AND PREFERENCE SHOULD BE GIVEN TO ACTIVITIES WITH LOW ENERGY REQUIREMENTS.

(V) RESOURCE-CONSERVING, LOW-WASTE, NON-ENCROACHING TECHNOLOGIES SHOULD BE PREFERRED AND MADE READILY AVAILABLE.

(VI) PRICES AND COSTS, AS WELL AS THE ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS THAT GOVERN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE ENTERPRISE DECISIONS, SHOULD AS FAR AS POSSIBLE REFLECT THE FULL ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS AND COSTS WHICH CAN BE ASCRIBED TO THE ACTIVITIES OF THE ENTERPRISES.

(VII) THE TIME HORIZONS AND DISCOUNT RATE ON ALTERNATIVE TECHNIQUES ADOPTED FOR SUCH DECISIONS SHOULD TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE NEEDS OF FUTURE GENERATIONS; IN PARTICULAR, THEY SHOULD MINIMIZE RISKS OF DEPLETION OF RESOURCES, WHICH LEADS TO RISING COSTS OF EXTRACTION AND DECLINING PRODUCTIVITY.

(VIII) NATIONAL AND GLOBAL ASSESSMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL DAMAGE SHOULD TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE INTERRELATEDNESS OF VARIOUS ACTIVITIES AND THE DIFFUSED NATURE OF THEIR IMPACT OVER TIME AND SPACE.

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(IX) RESOURCES IN THE GLOBAL COMMONS SHOULD BE USED IN THE INTERESTS OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY.

3. PERMREP WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S COMMENTS ON WORKING PAPER AND GUIDELINES PRIOR TO JANUARY 21. WORKING PAPER AND GUIDELINES APPEAR TO SUFFER FROM SAME LACK OF SPECIFICITY AS ORIGINAL THREE PAPERS ON WHICH THEY ARE BASED AND ARE LARGELY SILENT ON UNEP'S ROLE IN WHAT HAPPENS NEXT.
MARSHALL

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